

Hall of Fame induction Saturday honors five astronauts

▲ **Reminder:** On May 1, five Space Shuttle Astronauts are being inducted into the Astronaut Hall of Fame: Kathryn D. Sullivan, Richard O. Covey, Frederick D. Gregory, Norman E. Thagard, and the late Francis R. "Dick" Scobee. *The 2 p.m. induction ceremony is open to the public as part of admission to the KSC Visitor Complex.*

▲ **ISS Update:** The Expedition 8 Soyuz capsule is scheduled to undock from the Pirs Docking Compartment, where it has been during the mission, at 4:52 p.m. EDT today.

The return trip includes European Space Agency astronaut Andre Kuipers of the Netherlands, who arrived with the Expedition 9 crew and spent nine days aboard the Station conducting scientific investigations; Expedition 8 Commander Michael Foale and Flight Engineer Alexander Kaleri. Foale and Kaleri arrived on the Station Oct. 20 last year.

The landing is scheduled tonight at 9:09 p.m. EDT on the steppes of Kazakhstan.

◆ **Shuttle Update:** Discovery's nose cap was installed last Friday evening. The nose cap had been removed from the vehicle in the summer of 2003 and returned to the vendor, where it underwent numerous forms of Non-Destructive Evaluation. These

tests included X-ray, ultrasound and eddy current to ensure its structural integrity prior to installation on the vehicle. The nose cap was also re-coated.

Once returned to KSC, new Thermal Protection System blankets were assembled inside of the nose cap and thermography was performed.

◆ **Life in Balance** — The Federal Women's Program Working Group is hosting a 45-minute presentation, *How to Balance Your Life*, given by Patti Bell at 1 p.m. on May 11 in the O&C Mission Briefing Room. All civil service and contractor personnel are invited. For additional information, contact Kandy Warren at 867-7711.

◆ **Education Opportunity** — The Outreach Engineering Management Program (OEM) at the University of Florida is an engineering management master's degree program featuring live instruction in a convenient format designed for working professionals.

The degree program is a collaboration of the Colleges of Engineering and Business, and awards a master's degree in engineering after 20 months



Expedition 8 crew returns to Earth tonight

of study. The next program begins in August and will be held in Cape Canaveral. Classes meet only one weekend per month (Saturday and Sunday). A newly instituted concurrent degree option makes also getting an MBA degree possible with only 12 more months of course work.

Public information sessions are being held in *West Palm Beach* May 24, in *Melbourne* May 25, in *Cape Canaveral* May 26 and in *Orlando* May 27. All sessions meet 5:30 to 8 p.m., with a formal presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Complete details are available at <http://www.ise.ufl.edu/oemp> or by contacting the OEM program office (800-321-0199 or e-mail engrman@ise.ufl.edu).

◆ **Drive slowly** — Beginning Monday, May 3, V.A. Paving will start work on paving the westbound lanes of NASA Parkway. The roadway is a construction area and will have a reduced speed limit. Please obey the contractor-posted speed limit at all times.

◆ **Did You Know?** Tomorrow is Arbor Day, a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. Founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1872, National Arbor Day is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April.

